

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 101737Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9427
INFO AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2)

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, ML FR
SUBJECT: FRANCOPHONE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SUMMIT MEETINGS,
PARIS, MAY 1978: MALI

REFS: STATE 112420, BAMA KO 2197, LOME 1493

1. IN A LATE AFTERNOON MEETING MAY 9, SEYDOU TRAORE,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
CONFIRMED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT FOREIGN MINISTER ALIOUNE
BLONDIN BEYE WOULD ATTEND THE PARIS MINISTERIAL MAY 12-14.
HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION MOUSTAPHA DEME, A TECHNICAL COUNSELOR AT THE
PRESIDENCY, AND A SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

2. THE SECRETARY GENERAL ALSO CONFIRMED THAT PRESIDENT MOUSSA
TRAORE WOULD BE PRESENT AT THE SUMMIT MEETING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN
MAY 22. (THE DATES CITED FOR BOTH SESSIONS ARE DIFFERENT FROM
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THOSE GIVEN IN STATE 112420 BUT ARE AS THE MALIANS KNOW
THEM. THE REASON FOR THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE
MEETINGS IS TO ALLOW THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TIME TO
RETURN TO BRIEF THEIR PRINCIPALS BEFORE THE SUMMIT
GATHERING. HERETOFORE, NOTABLY AT OAU MEETINGS,
THE SECRETARY GENERAL COMMENTED, THE MINISTERIALS
AND SUMMITS RAN TOGETHER, SO THAT THE CHIEFS OF STATE

WERE INADEQUATELY INFORMED AND/OR HAD TO AGREE ON THINGS IN HASTE.) SEYDOU TRAORE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN EITHER SESSION, SINCE HE WILL BE MAKING A FIRST ORIENTATION VISIT TO DJIBOUTI, ANTANANARIVO, AND POSSIBLY ADDIS ABABA DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID MALI WOULD NOT HAVE ANY SPECIAL TOPICS TO RAISE NOR ANY BILATERAL MATTERS TO TAKE UP WITH FRANCE, WHICH ARE DEALT WITH IN ANOTHER FORUM. HE THOUGHT THE FRANCO-PHONE MEETINGS, WHICH HE SAID ARE DESIGNED NOT FOR DECISION-MAKING BUT FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, WOULD STICK TO A DISCUSSION OF GLOBAL ISSUES SUCH AS RESOURCE TRANSFERS, NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, AND DISARMAMENT. HE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS LIKE THE WESTERN SAHARA WERE BROACHED IN THE FULL SESSIONS EXCEPT POSSIBLE IN GENERAL CALLS FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT EVERYWHERE.

4. COMMENT: SEYDOU TRAORE'S REMARKS, TOGETHER WITH THE PRESENCE ON THE DELEGATION OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, TEND TO SUPPORT THE INFORMATION IN LOME 1493 THAT THE 1978 PARIS SUMMIT WILL BE DEVOTED MAINLY TO ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.
BYRNE

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